

# NewsRelease

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Langley Research Center**  
Hampton, Va. 23681-2199



Michael Finneran  
NASA Langley Research Center  
Phone: 757/864-6124; 757/344-4611(mobile)  
michael.p.finneran@nasa.gov

April 13, 2004

Alice Sipple  
Principal, Lee County Middle School, Beattyville, KY  
Phone: 606-464-5010

RELEASE: 04-021

NOTE TO EDITORS:  
**NASA TO SHARE EXPLORATION VISION WITH STUDENTS**

NASA's White House Liaison, Jeffrey Jezierski, will visit Lee County Middle School at 9 a.m. Friday, April 16, to share the agency's vision for space exploration with the next generation of explorers. Jezierski will be accompanied by Roy D. Bridges, Center Director at NASA's Langley Research Center and astronaut Frederick W. Sturckow.

Jezierski will talk with Lee County students about America's heritage as explorers. He will outline NASA's stepping-stone approach to exploring Earth, returning to the Moon, then moving on to Mars and beyond.

"The President has laid out a vision that inspires all Americans, but it is with particular enthusiasm that we are visiting the NASA Explorer Schools. Students are the explorers of tomorrow. They now have their mission and they will accomplish it," said Jezierski.

**Media interested in arranging interviews with Jezierski should contact Michael Finneran at 757-864-6124 or 757-344-4611 (mobile) by noon on Wednesday, April 14.**

"I've had the good fortune to experience exploration first-hand - as an Air Force test pilot and NASA astronaut," said Bridges, who assumed leadership at NASA Langley in August 2003. "I want to share with today's students both the excitement of discovery and how they can prepare to play a roll in our nation's future in space."

-more-

Sturckow, a USMC Lieutenant Colonel, joined the astronaut corps in 1995. He has flown twice; first on STS-88 in 1998, the first International Space Station assembly mission, and most recently on STS-105 in 2001. He has logged over 568 hours in space. He is assigned as Crew Commander on Shuttle mission STS-117, yet to launch.

"NASA Explorer Schools program provides middle school children the opportunity to connect the scientific principles that they are learning in the classroom to 'real world' applications such as the world of space and space travel," said Frank Kincaid, Superintendent, Lee County Schools.

Lee County Middle School is an Explorer School and is participating in a three-year partnership with NASA. Stimulating student imaginations and creativity via NASA discoveries, the partnership seeks to inspire young people and help them pursue careers in science, technology and engineering.

For information about the NASA Explorer Schools Program on the Internet, visit:

**<http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>**

For more information about the President's vision for space exploration, visit:

**[http://www.nasa.gov/missions/solarsystems/bush\\_vision.html](http://www.nasa.gov/missions/solarsystems/bush_vision.html)**

For more information about NASA, visit:

**<http://www.nasa.gov>**